Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, EEC

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT(IFAD)

REF: A) BONN 16835 B) LONDON 15756 C) EC BRUSSELS 9148 D) EC BRUSSELS 9202 E) STATE 241905

1. IN OUR REPORT ON THE COMMISSION'S REACTION TO THE US POSITION ON IFAD (REF B), WE MENTIONED THE QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT THE STATEMENT IN OUR POSITION THAT"MEMBERS SHOULD DECIDE WHETHER THEY WISH TO JOIN AS A STATE OR GROUP OF STATES BUT NOT AS BOTH". COMMISSION OFFICIALS SAID THAT THIS POSITION COULDPRESENT PROBLEMS IF BOTH THE COMMUNITY AND THE INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE (REF C). THEY ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION ON HOW THIS POSITION AFFECTS THE EC. REFS A AND B ALSO VOICED CONCERN IN PARTICULAR MEMBER STATE GOVERNMENTS ABOUT US OPPOSITION TO POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE IFAD BY BOTH THE EC AND MEMBER STATES.

2. AS WE REPORTED IN REF D, THE COMMUNITY HAS NOT YET DECIDED ON THE BASIS OF ITS PARTICIPATION IN THE IFAD. IT COULD TURN OUT THAT EC PARTICIPATION WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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BE BOTH THROUGH A COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AS WELL AS

INDIVIDUAL BILATERAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE MEMBER STATES. BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT INTERNATIONAL PRO-GRAMS SUCH AS THE EFAD HAVE OFTEN BEEN HANDLED SIMUL-TANEOUSLY BY THE NINE BOTH ON AN EC BASIS AND BILATERALLY, PRECEDENTS EXIST TO WHICH THE COMMUNITY CAN APPEAL (E.G., THE WALDHEIM APPEAL, FOOD AID PROGRAM, ETC.). THE PRACTICE STEMS FROM THE OVERLAPPING COMPETENCE OF THE COMMUNITY WITH THAT OF THE MEMBER STATES IN SUCH PROGRAMS AS WELL AS THE DESIRE ON THE PART OF SOME MEMBER STATES TO MAKE INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS GREATER THAN THOSE FOR WHICH THEY WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE UNDER A JOINT EC PROGRAM (E.G. THE DUTCH). CONSEQUENTLY, THE MISSION WONDERS WHETHER IT IS GOOD TACTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES TO RAISE A MAJOR PROCEDURAL ISSUE ON THIS POINT. WASHINGTON MAY WELL WISH TO REVIEW THE US POSITION CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 7(A), REF E, TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE IMPERFECT STATE OF EC COORDINATION ON THIS ISSUE AND TO CONSIDER THE CONCERNS WHICH HAVE BEEN VOICED IN LONDON, BONN AND BRUSSELS. MORRIS

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